

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-10 and 12 have been pending. The claims are amended and cancelled without disclaimer or prejudice. Thus, the pending claims remain for reconsideration, which is requested.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang (US Patent Application Publication No. 20030131110) in view of Glassman (US Publication no. 20030149900). Further, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9 and 10 are rejected as being unpatentable over Change in view of Henry (US Patent no. 5,774,058).

The independent claims 1, 5 and 9 are amended to require the limitations of claims 3, 7 and 10, respectively. The amendments are supported by the specification at page 14, line 19 to page 15, line 9. Claim 1 recites "wherein in determining the log-in procedure, the log-in procedure is determined by lowering the security level when a number of days since the last log-in date is smaller than a predetermined small number of days." The Office Action acknowledges that Chang does not disclose this feature, so the Office Action relies upon Glassman and Henry.

However, Glassman discloses "If the login attempt is invalid, the controller increments the count maintained in the invalid login count entry. If the count subsequently equals or exceeds a predefined threshold, the controller preferably changes the class of the login cookie from first-class to second-class" (paragraph 34). Therefore, Glassman does not disclose determining the log-in procedure by ***"lowering the security level when a number of days since the last log-in date is smaller than a predetermined small number of days."***

Moreover, Henry discusses an Idle-key-life variable for deactivating a key if Idle-key-life days have passed since the last login using a particular key, but does not disclose expressly or implicitly "wherein in determining the log-in procedure, the log-in procedure is determined by lowering the security level when a number of days since the last log-in date is smaller than a predetermined small number of days." In other words, Henry is silent on the claimed security level adjustment according to log-in activity, namely, depending on ***"a predetermined small number of days."***

Thus, a prima facie case of obviousness based upon Chang, Glassman and Henry cannot be established, because there is no evidence expressly or implicitly that one skilled in the art would combine Glassman's change of the login cookie from first class to second class depending on the invalid login count, with Henry's key deactivation based upon a last login date,

and then further modify Chang, Glassman and/or Henry to provided the claimed "***lowering the security level when a number of days since the last log-in date is smaller than a predetermined small number of days.***"

Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims is requested.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,
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